

ABSTRACT

A cash handling machine, such as a vending machine, has a housing, cash receiving means for receiving cash deposited by a machine user, and a cash store located in the housing and thus inaccessible to the user, and from which cash can be dispensed to the user. The machine is switchable in response to an operation external of the housing between a normal mode, in which a credit value is incremented in response to cash received by the receiving means, and a float mode in which cash received by the receiving means is directed to the cash store without giving credit. Therefore a "float" operation can be carried out without requiring the presence of an authorised serviceman.